

## Health News Release

For immediate release: December 1, 2011 (11-188)

Contacts: Allison Cook, Communications Office 360-236-4022

## Seattle nurse suspended for five years for substance abuse

Order issued after previous immediate suspension

**OLYMPIA** — The license of registered nurse Gordon McSherry (RN60147078) has been suspended for at least five years. This closes out the action taken by the state Department of Health and the Washington State Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission when McSherry was immediately suspended in May 2011.

The findings against McSherry, a Seattle resident, are based on substance abuse. He diverted multiple controlled substances from three facilities — including nearly 100 times from one facility. His license to practice nursing in Texas was also revoked for numerous violations.

After the immediate suspension was issued in May, McSherry requested a hearing, but didn't attend a required status conference, and the suspension order was issued by default. McSherry cannot work as a registered nurse in Washington. He may petition to the commission to have his license reinstated only after providing evidence of being clean and sober for at least two years.

Legal documents in this case are available by calling 360-236-4700 or online by clicking the link to "Provider Credential Search" on the <u>Department of Health website</u>. (www.doh.wa.gov).

The nursing commission protects public health and safety in Washington. It licenses and disciplines nurses using standards of practice.

The <u>Department of Health website</u> (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, <u>find us on Facebook</u> and <u>follow us on Twitter</u>.

###